REMARKS

Claims 1-19 are pending in this application. By this Preliminary Amendment, claims 1-15 are amended, and claims 16-19 are added. Claims 3, 4, 6, 8-13 and 15 are amended to eliminate multiple dependencies, claims 1-14 are amended to recite "wherein" instead of "characterized in that," and claims 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 9 and 12-15 are amended to better conform to U.S. English usage.

No new matter is added by this Preliminary Amendment. Support for new claims 16-19 can be found in original claims 5, 6, 13 and 15, respectively.

Prompt and favorable consideration on the merits is respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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Date: September 18, 2006

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